GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:622
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Strengthening of ASI Office in Bhubaneshwar
Majhi Shri Balabhadra

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to strengthen Archaeological Survey of India Offices in the country particularly at Bhubaneswar with required laboratory facilities and technical manpower for issue of non-antiquity certificate in time in order to boost export oriented handicraft industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard along with the time by which the said process will be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a), (b)&(c) The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has established laboratories in various field offices including Bhubaneswar Circle for conducting scientific study of Archaeological material. For purpose of issuing non-antiquity certificate an Expert Advisory Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Superintending Archaeologist, Bhubaneswar Circle. The committee meets as and when handicraft objects are brought by exporter for issuing non-antiquity certificate. Presently, no request for issuing non-antiquity certificate is pending with ASI, Bhubaneswar Circle.